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THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

OLDEST PAPER IN AMERICA

# BEE JOURNAL

GEORGE W. YORK, Editor. DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO BEE-CULTURE. Weekly, \$1.00 a Year. Sample Free.

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**A Merry Christmas to All** the readers of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is our sincerest wish at this time. Before another number reaches you, that happiest day of the year will have come and gone. Again we wish you—

A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

**Change of Ohio Meeting.**—Secretary Miss Dema Bennett, of Bedford, Ohio, writes us as follows:

The date of the Ohio convention has been changed so as not to conflict with the North American, to Jan. 2 and 3. I hope that some of the Western bee-keepers will buy their tickets to Columbus, and from there to Pittsburgh, if they wish to go as A. I. Root suggested in *Gleanings*, and on their return from Washington stop off at Columbus, O., and run down to our meeting at Washington C. H., which is only 39 miles below Columbus. It is only 39 miles further from Chicago via Columbus, O., to Pittsburgh than it is by the Fort Wayne route, both of which are the Pennsylvania railway lines, although the former is operated by the P. C. C. & St. L. Railway Company.

DEMA BENNETT, Sec.

**A \$1,000 Poem.**—The following poem brought its author \$1,000, being the sum offered by a syndicate of Western editors for the best appeal poem to subscribers to pay up their subscriptions. The prize was won by the editor of the *Rocky Mountain Celt*, and this is the "valuable" poem:

Lives of poor men oft remind us  
Honest men won't stand a chance;  
The more we work, there grows behind us  
Bigger patches on our pants.

On our pants, once new and glossy,  
Now are stripes of different hue,  
All because subscribers linger,  
And won't pay us what is due.

Then let us all be up and doing,  
Send your mite, however small,  
Or when the snow of winter strikes us,  
We shall have no pants at all.

Although the above may not truthfully represent the condition of our "pants," yet those three stanzas will serve to remind several of the BEE JOURNAL readers of something that they had forgotten. Is your subscription paid up? Look at the pink label on the wrapper, and see what it says.

By the way, **no blue mark** will be placed on the BEE JOURNAL of those subscribers who have paid to the end of this month and are marked "Dec92." Please make a note of this, and don't fail to renew *at once* for 1893. We are planning some grand features for the BEE JOURNAL next year. You can't afford to miss them, either. Send us the dollar—we'll do the rest.

**The Bee-Keepers' Union** has done grand work for the pursuit of bee-keeping. Mrs. L. Harrison, in the *Orange Judd Farmer*, said this about the Union a short time since:

The Bee-Keepers' Union has done much to cause our industry to be respected and placed upon a firm foundation. It has taught evil disposed persons and corporations that the production of honey is a legitimate business. Its able Manager, Mr. Thomas G. Newman, of Chicago, is always on the watchtower, scanning the horizon, and on the least appearance of danger is on the alert with well-directed guns. He has caused the enemy to retract and apologize for malicious statements.

It pays to be counted among the defenders of the industry of bee-keeping. Are you a member of the "noble band?" If not, send the \$1.00 membership fee to the General Manager—Thomas G. Newman, 147 S. Western Ave., Chicago, Ills. He will enroll your name and send you a membership receipt.

#### Portraits of Bee-Keepers.—

Beginning with Jan. 1, 1893, we are arranging to publish a biographical sketch with portrait, of some prominent bee-keeper, in every issue of the BEE JOURNAL for the ensuing year. This will make it a veritable historical album, besides containing everything of interest relating to the pursuit of bee-keeping. The old AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for 1893 promises to be more attractive and valuable than ever. Send us your subscription now, so that you may be sure to have the very first number of the new year.

**The Second Volume** of the *American Bee-Keeper* is completed with the December number. It says that though from a financial point of view their venture has been satisfactory, they "hope that none will conclude that because of this they can surely make a 'pot o' money' by publishing a bee-paper. The chances are, they will have to meet

only with a miserable failure; at least this has been the result of numerous trials in the past." Too true.

What is more needed than new bee-papers, is a more extended patronage of the best of the present publications, so that they may be better able to advance the interests of the pursuit. However, we have no reason to complain, judging from the way our list is being lengthened, especially since bee-keepers have just passed through several exceedingly poor honey seasons.

We are indeed thankful for the hearty endorsement our efforts are constantly receiving, in the various expressions brought to us by nearly every mail.

We wish, right here, to thus publicly acknowledge our appreciation of the many kind things said of the BEE JOURNAL and its work, by those who are now renewing their subscriptions for another year, and also for the many fraternal references we have received through all of our valued aparian exchange papers.

**Seven Carloads** of bee-supplies for 1893 represent the orders which our friend A. I. Root had on hand Dec. 1st. That's a pretty big start for next season, but not more than could be expected when it is known that he has branch houses, or representatives, to handle his goods in nearly a dozen different parts of the country. It only shows what square dealing may accomplish, and what energy and the application of correct business principles will result in.

We believe that there are more honest dealers in bee-keepers' supplies, in proportion to the number thus engaged, than in any other industry of like extent. "Crooked" folks don't seem to have much to do with bees or their requirements, though there are some who are wicked enough to tamper with the honey product in marketing it.

**Read** our great offer on page 813.

**Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Secor,** of Forest City, Iowa, dropped into our office one day last week, on their way to the Washington convention. They will spend a few days visiting old friends in New York State before going to Washington. Being the honored President of the great North American Bee-Keepers' Association, it is important that Mr. Secor should be present at the meeting next week, hence he takes an early start.

We should indeed be glad to attend also, were it possible to leave at this time of the year, but as Bro. A. I. Root expects to be there, and with Bro. Hutchinson as Secretary and reporter for the *BEE JOURNAL*, the literary part of the pursuit will be ably represented.

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**The Pure Food Bill**, introduced into Congress by Senator Paddock, should be passed at this session of that body. It is expected that the North American Bee-Keepers' Association will do something to help along the matter at its convention next week. Producers of pure honey are much interested in Senator Paddock's Bill. They ought to be, as it will be a great aid in prohibiting the adulteration of honey, as well as other food products.

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**Italians vs. Blacks.**—The editor of the *American Bee-Keeper* says that "there is no doubt of the superiority of the Italians over the black bees, and, in fact, the Carniolan bees are considered by many to be equal, if not superior, to the Italians. Of course the black bees have some characteristics which are better than are found in either Italians or Carniolans, but taking everything into consideration, they are much inferior."

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**Mr. James Fornbrook**, of the firm of James Fornbrook & Co., Water-town, Wis., called at the *BEE JOURNAL* office last week. He had been at the Springfield meeting of the Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association.

#### **Changing the Air in Cellars.**

—Mr. S. Plummer, of Mannsville, N. Y., asks the following questions about keeping the air in motion in a cellar containing bees:

1. My cellar is quite wet, and the combs in the hives are apt to mold some—too much for the good of the bees. Will it do any good to place a fan wheel in one side of the cellar, and run by a wind-mill, so as to put the air in motion around the cellar?
2. Will it have any bad effect on the bees in the cellar?

S. PLUMMER.

Changing the air in the cellar in any way will be a good thing for the bees, and it is not very likely that there will be any mold where the air is constantly renewed. The only question as to danger is whether so much of a current might be forced on the bees that they would be made uneasy by it, or be made cold by it. For you must remember that when you force a current of air into the cellar, as a general rule in winter, it will send in colder air than that already in the cellar. But bees will stand more cold in pure than in foul air. If your bees are quiet and comfortable, you needn't feel very anxious.

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**Tomato Honey.**—The following recipe for making tomato honey is given by Mrs. Wm. Kenmuir, of McKeesport, Pa., in an exchange:

Select ripe tomatoes, weigh and cut them into slices and put in a kettle. For each pound of tomatoes add the grated rind of one lemon; simmer gently for about 30 minutes, then press through a cloth. Measure the liquor and return to the kettle, and for each pint add one pint of sugar and four tablespoonfuls of lemon juice. Boil until a jelly-like syrup is formed, then put into bottles.

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**Beet-Sugar, Not Bee-Sugar,** was what we meant to say in referring to the forthcoming book by W. A. Pryal, on bee-keeping in California, and the fruit and beet-sugar industries, mentioned on page 723. Omitting one letter (t) in the word beet-sugar makes something entirely different, and senseless.

**First Weekly Bee-Paper.—**

In the *Canadian Bee Journal* for Dec. 1st, is a communication from Mr. O. Fitzalwyn Wilkins, of International Bridge, Ont., who says:

A query which very frequently has arisen in my mind, is, why the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL should have been allowed to substantiate its claim of being the only weekly bee-paper in existence.

If I remember correctly, the *Canadian Bee Journal* was the first weekly publication in the interest of apiculture, which started into being on the continent to which we belong; and why it should have been changed to a bimonthly, thereby giving the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL the opportunity of making the claim already spoken of, is "one of those things which no fellow can understand," as Lord Dundreary is credited with having said.....

What say you, friend? Shall the *Canadian Bee Journal* continue to rest quietly under the stigma of having surrendered its birthright?

In the second paragraph of the above, it is well that the correspondent said, "If I remember correctly," for that gives us an opportunity to refresh his memory, in a pleasant way, upon the fact that the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL began to be published as a weekly paper on Jan. 1, 1881—over four years before the *Canadian Bee Journal* was born, which was April 1, 1885. The latter is now a semi-monthly.

In his reply to Mr. W.'s suggestion, the editor of the *Canadian Bee Journal* must have overlooked the misapprehension on the part of his contributor. In that response, our brother editor makes some very complimentary reference to the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, a portion of which we reproduce, as follows:

We should be very glad, indeed, if we could see our way clearly to a return to first principles, and the re-issue of the *Canadian Bee Journal* as a weekly journal. We do not know what the experience of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is, beyond the fact that we are happy to observe that it appears to be a prosperous venture. Our experience was that the weekly issue did not pay, and there was consequently no alterna-

tive left but to make the change. It counts largely in favor of economy of production, on the part of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, that it is published within almost the center of a circle whose periphery encloses a *clientelle* of some sixty millions of people. And although we enjoy a considerable circulation upon our own axis, as well as within the periphery of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, all the opportunities are more favorable to our contemporary than to ourselves. We can only say, in the meantime, that we are really glad to believe that the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is so well able to sustain its weekly issue, and we wish it all the success it deserves.

It does rejoice us very much to see the truly brotherly feeling existing among all the editors of the various bee-papers. This is only as it should be, we think. We most heartily reciprocate the cordial "wish" expressed in the last sentence written by our Canadian brother editor. "The greatest possible good to the greatest possible number" can be attained only by the existence of the "greatest possible" fraternal feeling on the part of those who control our aparian periodical literature.

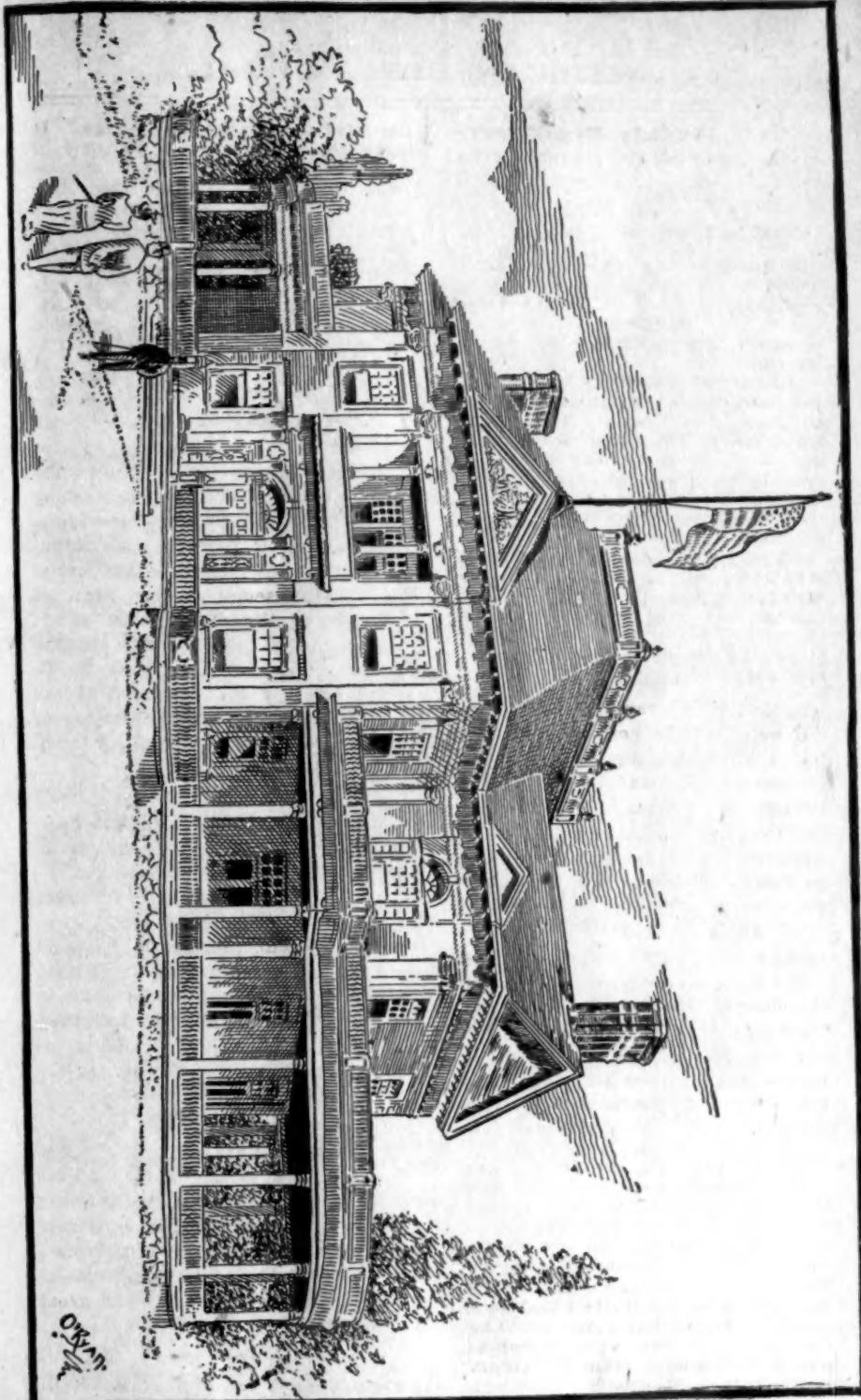
**Bees are Old Inhabitants.—**

We recently read that "it is claimed that the honey-bee has existed geologically as an inhabitant of our earth ages before the appearance of the human race, living, doubtless as now, in orderly communities, laboring for a common purpose, and leading a wonderful life in all interesting relations with each other. The industry, the law of order, the neatness and the loyal devotion to the queen are remarkable in these insects."

**The West Virginia State Building** at the World's Fair is given on the opposite page. We have been showing a number of the State buildings during the past few months, as all bee-keepers, as well as the rest of mankind, are interested in whatever relates to the great Fair of 1893.

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**Don't Fail** to read all of page 813.





CONDUCTED BY

**Mrs. Jennie Etchley,**  
GREENVILLE, TEXAS.**Big Yield from Horse-Mint Expected.**

We have had a rainy spell for a few days, and lots of mud. Horse-mint, one of our best honey-plants, is up nice, and we anticipate a big yield from it next spring, as it seldom fails when it gets an early start.

J. A.  
Greenville, Tex., Dec. 18, 1892.**'Way Down in Tennessee.**

My spring crop of honey from about 60 colonies amounted to only 8½ pounds of comb honey in sections, and the fall crop was only 9½ pounds. Several of my colonies had to be fed. The swarming impulse was not hard to control—only 6 swarms issued. My location is in the mountains near the Cumberland river, and some years—I might say most years—the bee-pasturage is good. The honey crop on the higher land, 20 miles from here, was excellent.

**INTRODUCING QUEEN - CELLS.** — Some writers advise against introducing queen-cells immediately after removing the old queen. For two years I have been improving my stock, and have introduced, I suppose, thirty or more cells just after the removal of the old queen, and I do not remember to have lost a single cell. Some were placed in strong colonies, and some in nuclei.

**QUEER CONDUCT OF A SWARM.** — Here is an entry on my record under date of June 9, 1892: "The swarm of the 7th—the only one I have had—was laced on the old stand at night, the swarm having come out about 3 p.m. Next morning the bees of the swarm were killing the bees that came back from the parent colony, and continued to do so notwithstanding I smoked them, and they were getting plenty of

honey." I am confident I was not mistaken in the hive they came from, and that there was only one swarm. I am unable to see why they should kill each other after being separated only a few hours.

**THE BEST QUEENS.** — The colonies having queens from my imported queens have done decidedly the best, so far as honey is concerned, this year, with possibly one exception, and I cannot say for certain whether the queen of that colony is from the imported stock, or not.

L. K. SMITH.

Gainesboro, Tenn., Dec. 8, 1892.

**Feeding Bees in Winter.**

I cite the following from page 188 of the December *American Apiculturist*: "Don't undertake to feed bees in the winter. It is sometimes done successfully, but it proves a failure in 90 per cent. of all cases so treated. There is no practical method, and no feeders by which feeding can be made a success or practical."

Bro. Alley surely does not mean to let the bees starve, just because it is winter! I hope he will excuse me when I say, yes, feed your bees any day out of the 365, if they need it, just the same as you would feed your horse, and if you are any bee-keeper at all, you will be more successful every time, rather than let them starve.

It may be more difficult to feed bees in the North during winter than it is here, but I assure you that if I lived in the North I would feed my bees if they needed it. But it is best to leave the bees alone in winter, unless it is actually necessary to disturb them.

I feed my bees (some of them) all winter, and I do not lose any of them either, and any one can do the same, for I use no particular means, only see that they get the food. When the weather is warm enough, I use a milk-pan feeder on top; if not, I fill a comb and hang it right up to the cluster.

J. A.

**Doolittle's Queen-Rearing** book should be in the library of every bee-keeper; and in the way we offer to to give it, there is no reason now why every one may not possess a copy of it. Send us one new subscriber for a year, and we will mail the book to you bound in paper, as a present.



### The Clover Blossoms.

Some sing of the lily, and daisy and rose,  
And the pansies and pinks that the summer  
time throws  
In the green, grassy lap of the meadow that  
lays  
Blinkin' up at the skies through the sunshiny  
days;  
But what is the lily and all of the rest  
Of the flowers to a man with a heart in his  
breast  
That has dipped brimmin' full of the honey  
and dew  
Of the sweet clover blossoms that his boyhood  
knew?

I never set heavy on a clover-field now,  
Or fool round a stable, or climb in a mow,  
But my childhood comes back just as clear  
and as plain  
As the smell of the clover I'm sniffin' again;  
And I wander away in a barefooted dream  
Where I tangled my toes in the blossoms that  
gleam  
With the dew of the dawn of the morning of  
love  
Ere it wept o'er the graves that I am weeping  
above.

And so I love clover—it seems like a part  
Of the sacredest sorrows and joys of my heart;  
And wherever it blossoms, oh, there let me  
bow  
And thank the good God as I am thankin' Him  
now;  
And pray to Him still for the strength when I  
die  
To go out in the clover and tell it good-by.  
And lovingly nestle my face in its bloom,  
While my soul slips away on a breath of per-  
fume. —Selected.

### Merits of Five-Banded Bees.

I will tell what I like about the five-banded bees:

1. They are a large, strong, healthy bee.
2. They are very industrious, and can carry a good working gait, when the wind blows so hard that all the other species of bees that I have cannot venture out.
3. They enter the sections just as soon as they are ready, and will climb right up and fill all that they can get the honey to do it with.
4. They show but little disposition to swarm, as only one out of the 6 colonies

that I had, offered to swarm the past season, and what they may do is to be learned later.

5. They cap their honey the whitest of any bee that I own.

6. They are as gentle as butterflies.

7. They are perfect beauties.

I have no interest in any particular kind of bees. The bee that pays me best for my labor is the bee for me. My business is producing honey, and not the sale of bees or queens.

The five-banded bees did this for me the past wet season:

The first gave me 132 pounds of honey; the next best, 99 pounds; the next, 66 pounds, and the least gave me 50 pounds and cast a swarm. This was nearly all from clover, as basswood was a failure, and all was secured from June 20th to Aug. 1st.

I have been so well pleased with what those 6 colonies of bees have done for me the past season (1892), that I bought 42 this fall, and will report next fall whether they are then in possession of the "red card" that they so honestly earned the past season in my yard.—IRA BARBER, in *American Apiculturist*.

### Wet Sheet Pack for Bee-Stings.

A young man in this neighborhood was stung by a bee. It made him so deathly sick that a physician was called. He did not recover for a week. Such results from a bee-sting are rare, yet they do sometimes happen, and persons affected in this way should be kept away from bees.

When a person that has been stung is very sick because of it, and breaks out in large blisters all over, a good thing to administer is a wet sheet pack without delay. It is done thus:

Spread two comfortables upon a lounge, and then wring a blanket or sheet out of hot water, lay the patient upon the center of it, and tuck the bed clothes snugly about him, so that no air can enter. Finish with a warm brick at the feet, and a cool cloth upon the head. The room must be dark, airy, and very quiet, and the patient will be usually relieved at once, and drop off to sleep. When he awakes, which will usually be in half an hour to an hour, he should be washed in a tub of tepid water, showered with water a trifle cooler, and put to bed immediately. This is also excellent treatment for breaking up a cold or fever.—MRS. L. HARRISON in *Orange Judd Farmer*.



### How Long Can Bees Live on Only Bee-Bread?

**Query 850.**—1. How long can bees live in winter quarters on bee-bread, without honey? 2. Or can't they do it?—Michigan.

2. They can't do it.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

1. Until they die. 2. Yes!!!—A. B. MASON.

1. Don't know. 2. Not long.—E. FRANCE.

1. But a very few days, at most.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

1. I don't know. Not long, I think.—EUGENE SECOR.

1. They cannot live on bee-bread alone.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

Not long enough for any practical purpose, at any rate.—JAMES A. GREEN.

1. Until the honey in their honey-sacs is exhausted, and a very few days longer.—M. MAHIN.

1. A few days, until the bee-bread makes them sick with bee-diarrhea.—JAMES HEDDON.

I can answer this Yankee fashion, by asking, What would they be good for if they did live?—H. D. CUTTING.

1. Only so long as the bee-bread contains any honey. 2. They can't subsist on bee-bread alone.—J. E. POND.

1. They can't do it. At any rate, we would not want to try it, for we feel sure we would lose them.—DADANT & SON.

1. Bee-bread would add very little, if anything, to the length of their lives in ordinary winter quarters.—R. L. TAYLOR.

1. I never experimented in that line, and if there is any such thing on record I am not aware of it.—MRS. J. N. HEATER.

1. No longer than as though they had no food. Honey is the food for ques-

cence, and pollen is not needed. Breeding and activity call for pollen.—A. J. COOK.

1. When the honey is all gone it will be but a question of a very few days how long the colony will live.—C. H. DIBBERN.

I've had them starve with plenty of bee-bread, but I don't know how long they lived (if at all) after the honey was gone.—C. C. MILLER.

1. Probably for a short time; but look out for "spring dwindling." I would not care to have my bees in this condition.—W. M. BARNUM.

1. I have not kept an account to the hour, but I have observed that they can survive only for a short time. Without the honey, the pollen rapidly produces a disease of the intestines, and death.—J. P. H. BROWN.

1. I have had them starve on plenty of bee-bread in winter. It may be known that they are starving by the great number that may be found running out of the hive to die. 2. They cannot live long without honey.—G. L. TINKER.

1. They will live just about long enough to starve to death. 2. Not much, I have had colonies starve just as quick after the honey was all gone, with combs quite heavy with pollen. But we get some pollen here sometimes that is very sweet, or moist with honey, and the bees can live on that a little while. But, as you ask without honey, I say No.—MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

1. I don't think that adult bees can live at all on bee-bread. In numerous cases I have had bees die from starvation when several combs were full of good, sweet pollen. When bees consume pollen, they must have honey and water, too, to soften and mix the pollen into a sort of paste, so that they can take it into their stomachs. Bees can only take food when in a liquid state.—G. W. DEMAREE.

**The Ladies' Home Journal,** of Philadelphia, Pa., is perhaps the finest monthly home magazine in the world. If ordered before Dec. 25th, 1892, we can club it with the **BEE JOURNAL**—both Journals for one year—for \$1.60, to either old or new subscribers. If you are a new subscriber to both JOURNALS, you will receive ours the rest of this year free; and the "Ladies' Home Journal" will begin with the January number.



### Hiving Swarms on Drawn Combs in Producing Comb Honey.

*Written for the American Bee Journal*  
BY W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

In the BEE JOURNAL of Oct. 27, 1892, I was considerably interested (and somewhat surprised, too) to see the replies given in response to the Query, "What is the best plan to make use of a lot of nice brood-combs, should I wish to work my bees for comb honey, allowing each colony to swarm once?"

With one or two exceptions, the answers favor hiving the swarms on the combs. I cannot help wondering how many have tried hiving swarms on drawn combs, and at the same time tried hiving some of their swarms on starters only, or on sheets of foundation. Years ago, I gave the plan a trial, and have continued to try it until I am satisfied that, for me, it would be money in my pocket to burn the combs rather than fill the brood-nest when hiving swarms in producing comb honey.

Let me explain briefly how I produce comb honey. I use supers and practice the tiering-up plan. When a super is half-full and honey is coming in at a fair rate, the super is raised and an empty one put between that and the hive. In a short time, depending upon the rate at which honey is coming in, the upper super will be found two-thirds completed, and the lower one half filled. If the bees do not swarm, another super is soon given the colony, it being placed next to the hive. In a short time the upper super will be ready to come off, and the lower ones will be in such a stage of completion that another super can be added next to the hive.

Almost every bee-keeper understands that in tiering up this process is continued as long as honey continues to come in, and bees do not swarm. But in three cases out of four, in a good season, the bees will swarm. They seldom

swarm until a start has been made in the sections. At least, this is usually the case when sections have been put on soon enough, and some of the sections contain partly or fully drawn combs. In the past, many bee-keepers felt that with the swarm went a fair share of the hopes of any surplus. The swarm was hived in a full-sized brood-chamber, and given a new location, and it required the remainder of an ordinary season to build up and fill the hive for winter. If left to itself, the old colony usually swarmed until it was of no value as a storeroom of surplus. If after-swarming was prevented, the old colony would do fair work if it had cast its swarm early in the season.

When a swarm issues I do not give it a new location, but hive it on the old stand, setting the old colony to one side and preventing after-swarming by the Heddon method. This plan throws all of the working-force into the new swarm. No more surplus is expected of the old colony; all that is expected of that is to build up into a good colony for winter. The surplus is all taken from the swarm. The brood-nest is contracted to the capacity of six Langstroth frames, or one section of the new Heddon hive.

Now it is a fair question why I would not fill those brood-nests with drawn combs. The first thing that the bees will do is to fill the combs with *honey*. They won't work in the sections until they have filled the brood-combs, and when they have filled them they seem loth to begin work in the sections. They seem to feel as though they had finished their job, and it was asking too much of them to commence another job away off upstairs. Slowly, gingerly, grudgingly, they will finally begin to work in the sections if the honey-flow continues.

Colonies hived on starters, or foundation, cannot store honey in the brood-nest until comb has been built or foundation drawn out. The surplus cases are always transferred from the old colony to the newly-hived swarm at the time of hiving, and as the bees have nowhere else to store their honey, they at once begin work in the sections where they left off when swarming. Within 20 minutes from the time that a swarm has issued, I have had the bees right back in the same sections at work with the vim that comes only from a newly-hived swarm.

Where bees begin to store their honey when they are hived, there they prefer to keep on storing it. When there is no comb in the brood-nest the honey must

of necessity be stored in the sections (when those filled with comb are given) until comb is built in the brood-nest, and as fast as the comb is built the queen fills it with eggs, and the result is that the honey goes into the sections where it is worth 15 cents a pound while the brood-nest is filled with brood.

With this system of management, queen-excluders must be used, else the queen will at once invade the sections where the bees will soon empty some of the cells of honey to make room for her to begin laying. I have managed without excluders by putting one or two combs in the brood-nest to give the queen a chance to begin laying in the brood-nest when the swarm is first hived, and by the time that she is well started there, more cells will be built in which she can lay. The brood-nest being started in the right place, there it will remain.

So far as results in surplus honey are concerned, I have been more successful in using simply starters in the brood-nest, but the objection to, their use is that the combs are not always straight, and often drone-comb is the result. To remedy this, it has been urged that the combs can be sorted over, and the imperfect ones melted into wax.

This matter of using combs to hive swarms on when producing comb honey is not one of theory alone with me, as I have hived one swarm on starters, then one on sheets of foundation, then one on drawn combs, and noted the results. I continued to thus experiment year after year, until I was most thoroughly convinced that the use of drawn combs was a loss. I not only secured less surplus honey, but the colony was left in no better condition for winter. Between the use of foundation in full sheets, and simply starters, there was not so much difference in results, but the balance was in favor of simply the starters, while the cost of the foundation must be considered in addition.

It was the result of these experiments that led to the publication of my little book on the "Production of Comb Honey." Three thousand copies of the book were sold, and I would be glad if the purchasers of that book would tell where I am at fault, if I am at fault.

Flint, Mich.

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**Webster's Pocket Dictionary** we offer as a premium for sending *only one new subscriber with \$1.00*. It is a splendid Dictionary—and just right for a pocket.

### Sour Honey and Adulteration— Both Detrimental.

*Written for the American Bee Journal*

BY FRANK COVERDALE.

It has always been a mystery to me, since we have attained such perfect machinery for throwing honey from the comb, that this product should not sell at a more paying figure. It is not, in my opinion, he who carries on adulteration that must stand all the blame, but he who is so careless as to extract unripe honey, let it sour, and then place such on the market, or place it on the market just as soon as it is extracted. Such honey, sealed tight in jars or receptacles of any kind, will soon ferment, and even if such is sold before souring, it is too thin, and the consumer will say there is water in that honey.

I am sorry to say that much of this sort of stuff is placed on the market—far more than I had any idea of until I became "cheeky" enough to take advantage of every opportunity to taste, and what a puckery taste it is, and, to my sorrow, I know that it is a fact.

Even at the Fairs it stands on exhibit. Then if our foremost brethren will do this, how much more so with the less experienced. I now feel confident that much pure honey is on the market—that which is a positive damage to our trade. How long this state of things will last I do not know.

Honey, when thoroughly ripened by bees, is rich, pure, sweet and healthful, and such honey thrown from the comb should bring a far better price on the market than it does at present.

The very best comb honey will not take the place of extracted on our table. Our children will cry out for extracted honey. Would not the mass of people at large do the same, in a measure, if they were not so oftentimes "bitten" with fermented, soured, and sometimes adulterated, honey? Such honey is not as good as "black-strap" molasses, and until such affairs can be overcome, the price for extracted honey must at large remain low.

I took some very nice honey to our grocery store one day—such as could hardly be expected—and the clerk said that 10 cents was all that he could pay, and wanted to know if it had been boiled. I looked him smilingly in the face, and informed him that it didn't need any boiling.

"Yes," he insisted, "it must be boiled, or it would not keep."

Then I opened a jar and told him to taste it, which proved to his taste to be O. K., but he said it wouldn't stay so unless it was boiled! I knew that something was wrong, and I kindly asked him if he would show me where they kept their store honey, that was not on the counter. Down cellar we went. It was cold and damp—such a place to keep honey! Before I left that place I delivered a lecture—not short—and sold him my honey, and it is my strong belief that no more honey is kept in that cellar.

It would be well for every one who sells honey, to warn them not to keep it in cellars. Freezing and thawing will sour both extracted and comb honey. The producer should guard against it, as it injures the honey.

Welton, Iowa.

#### Difference in Eggs of Impregnated Queen and a Virgin.

*Written for the American Bee Journal*

BY C. J. ROBINSON.

Query 843, on page 598, propounds three several questions: First, "Are the eggs in an impregnated queen different from those of a virgin?" This question, thus formed, calls only for a "Yes," or a "No," yet in the 22 answers, from as many bee-keepers, but three make square answers, thus: Two say "No," and one says "Yes."

Evidently the propounder queried thus: Are the eggs "in any way changed" by copulation? He might well ask, "Is a queen in any way changed by being impregnated?" The proposition refers to two several queens—an impregnated and a virgin. The problem is, Are the ovary organs changed at all in a queen by her being impregnated? If her egg organs do not become changed "in any way," her virgin eggs, developed after copulation, are not in any way different from eggs in her "matrix" before meeting a drone.

How it is—the wonderful *modus operandi* of nature—that an egg-producing bee in due form (queen) comes forth, must, in the order of creation, remain a profound mystery. Belief based on speculation is but vanity, yet the mystery is speculated upon in such an overweening way by some writers that most readers verily believe that such writers are inspired.

When so-called virgin queens come forth they remain immature—incompe-

tent to reproduce, so that the race may be perpetuated, until, per chance, they meet and become matured by receiving from the drone the male *organ*—that which secretes and furnishes spermatozoa to change the egg, thus rendering her fructified by being impregnated.

The notion that a virgin queen receives from a drone into her "sac" sufficient spermatic fluid to impregnate her worker eggs during an existence of six or more years, is the sum of ignorance. Spermatic fluid introduced into a queen, unless immediately utilized, would be like any foreign matter. Certain it is that queens generate and regenerate eggs through their ovary ducts, and after receiving the male organ they are fully matured so as to generate spermatozoa with which to impregnate virgin eggs. The drone introduces his spermatozoa-generating organ into the queen, the organ being so formed that it at once becomes grafted on to the membranes or walls of the cavity left vacant naturally in immature queens.

Some half a century ago certain German bee-scientists applied the term "parthenogenesis" to queen-bees not having copulated. If the definition of the term (a compound word), as recorded by lexicographer R. Owen, and copied by the revisers of Webster, is correct, there is no valid or tenable ground for claiming that honey-bees are like the genera to which parthenogenesis can properly be applied. The hive-bees belong to the family of insects of the order *Hymenoptera* (q. v.), belonging to the section of that order called *Aculeata*, in which the female (workers) are not furnished with an ovipositor. Hence the order *Apis mellifica* cannot perpetuate their restricted genus only by impregnation of eggs by male sperm. Not so with the order of insects that procreate from eggs produced by females without being impregnated with male spermatozoa.

The term "parthenogenesis" (gr.) is a compound word, signifying virgin and young, and is defined by Prof. R. Owen thus: "The successive production of procreating individuals from a single *ovum* (egg) without any renewal of fertilization." Certain German writers claimed that parthenogenesis really related to the propagation of honey-bees, because so-called virgin queens produce ovum that hatch male bees only; but the race cannot be multiplied or perpetuated without the element furnished by the male sex. Not a virgin queen can be begotten without a "renewal of

fertilization," and, without such renewal, virgins are of no account as progenitors or mothers. Hence, without said renewal, the *Apis mellifica* family would inevitably become extinct.

Richford, N. Y.

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### A Nebraska Report for the Season of 1892.

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*Written for the American Bee Journal*  
BY WM. STOLLEY.

My report for the year 1892 is as follows: Last winter I wintered (without loss) 39 colonies. One I found queenless in the spring, and united the bees with another weak colony. I sold 4 colonies for \$40, and thus began the campaign with 26 colonies run for extracted honey, and 9 colonies for comb.

The spring of 1892 was cold, wet and changeable—in fact, the worst spring I ever experienced, followed by a severe drouth, which greatly curtailed the honey-flow in midsummer. The result is not very good, but much better than I see many reports in the BEE JOURNAL.

From the 26 colonies run for extracted honey, I obtained a trifle over 50 pounds per colony, and from the 9 colonies worked for comb honey, I got, on an average, but 17 pounds per colony, owing to the swarming of 5 colonies worked for comb honey. The 4 colonies which were worked for comb honey in one-pound sections, and which did not swarm, gave me 141 sections, or, on an average, 35 pounds.

My increase is but 4 colonies, so that I have now 38 colonies, all of them in first-class condition, and provided each with not less than 25 pounds, net, of winter stores, while I have set aside for spring feeding 110 frames containing about 400 pounds of honey.

I have requeened my apiary, so that I have now 26 queens reared in 1892, and but 12 queens reared in 1891.

My bees winter on the summer stands in double-walled hives, well packed inside the hive. They had their last flight on Dec. 2nd.

The total income from my bees will be about \$205 cash, or \$6.20 per colony, and an increase of 4 colonies.

Sweet clover and alfalfa are my main resources for honey. The fall bloom did not amount to much this year.

Grand Island, Nebr., Dec. 2, 1892.

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Have You Read page 813 yet?

### Bees in California—Their Introduction; Harbison, et al.

*Written for the American Bee Journal*  
BY W. A. PRYAL.

(Continued from page 795.)

Bees were taken to the Sacramento valley by A. P. Smith, in 1855, and in 1856 to the southern part of the State. San Jose was the distributing point.

In the fall of 1855, Mr. Harbison had prepared in the East a colony for shipment to him at Sacramento. It arrived Feb, 1856. Though many of the bees had died *en route*, he was satisfied that by proper care and handling, he could bring any number of colonies through all right. His one colony proved to him that there was plenty of good honey along the Sacramento.

Accordingly, in May, 1857, he went East, and on Nov. 5th he left New York with 67 colonies. Aspinwall was reached ten days later; the bees were given a flight at this point during the evening; on the 16th they were on board the steamer at Panama, and arrived in San Francisco on Nov. 30th. They were reshipped by river steamer, and landed at Sacramento Dec. 2nd. They had made a journey of 5,900 miles—the longest ever known at that time of bees being transported at one continuous voyage. Of this importation, only 5 colonies succumbed. The loss was attributed to the ravages of the bee-moth.

#### HARBISON'S START ON A LARGE SCALE.

This was verily Mr. Harbison's start in bee-culture on a large scale in California. All his manipulations with the industrious little workers there, with a few minor exceptions, were enviable successes.

In the '70's he went to the lower part of the State. This was about the time of the announcement of the wonderful honey resources of the southern counties. His large, practical knowledge as an apiarist soon placed him at the top of the ladder. He was soon the greatest honey-producer of the world. His was the biggest shipment of honey to cross the continent—some ten cars being required to move a portion of his crop in 1876. I believe a large part of his honey was sent to England, where it sold readily at a fair price. His apiaries were scattered through San Diego county, and he carefully trained young men to manage them.

**HARBISON'S HUMANE SPIRIT.**

His life among the bees shows what intelligence and perseverance can accomplish. The myriads of bees he had toiling on hill and dale in the "perennial sun land," brought him a goodly store of golden dollars. No longer does the industrious bees labor from early morn to dewy eve for him. In truth, he has emancipated the faithful little slaves. He feels that they served him well,<sup>2</sup> and he no longer desired to hold the whip over them, as it were. Where in the world can the whole race of bees find a truer master—a better friend than they did in J. S. Harbison? It was his life-long aim to give not only his bees, but also everybody's bees, a comfortable home where they would not be ruthlessly murdered when being plundered of their well-earned stores, by man.

**MOST PROGRESSIVE AND INVENTIVE.**

While not in one whit wishing to detract from the fame which our friend, Rev. L. L. Langstroth, has merited, I think that Mr. Harbison stands to-day the best example of a progressive and inventive bee-keeper in the world. His book is but little known to the present generation of apiculturists; it is a classic nevertheless, and if it were not for his active life and natural modesty, the bee-keeping world would probably to-day be indebted to him for other editions than the single one he turned out a generation ago; besides, we might have read articles in apicultural publications from his versatile and experienced pen—articles bristling with practical information which no other living apiarist could impart.

**PROPHECIES MADE BY HARBISON.**

I cannot well close this series without a further peep into the mind of wealth which he has given us in his Directory.

Right here I would remark that I cannot help calling him a "prophet." It is quite remarkable how he was able to foretell to what proportions the honey industry of this State would attain. We must remember that when he prepared this book for publication, he kept bees upon the banks of the Sacramento river—a region which is not now considered a honey section, although much honey of good quality is yet produced there.

Where were more prophetic words ever written than the following, taken from page 193 of his "Bee-Keepers' Directory," where he speaks of the quantity and quality of California honey:

"..... And the time is not far distant

*when, if the business of bee-rearing receives the attention that it deserves, the export of honey and beeswax will be no inconsiderable item of revenue to the apiarists of the Pacific Coast. The mountain honey will probably take the lead, both for beauty and excellence of flavor."* The italics are the writer's.

Yes, indeed, it has become a big item, so much so that Californians point to it with pride. When Mr. H. wrote the foregoing quotation, the marvelous sage region as a honey country was undreamed of by the bee-keeper. But Mr. Harbison well knew that California is a vast bee-garden. Its mountains and valleys, from Oregon to the Mexico line, and from the Sierras to the Sea, abound in honey-flora. Sites for apiaries innumerable are yet undiscovered in the thousands and thousands of little valleys and canyons nestling about its pretty hills and grand mountains.

**INVENTION OF BELLOWS BEE-SMOKER.**

I have often heard the name of Mr. Quinby mentioned as the inventor of the bellows bee-smoker, but the edition of his book published in 1865, makes no mention of such smoker. On the other hand, Mr. Harbison not only gives a description of such a smoker, but a very good wood-cut. He does not say who is the inventor. He describes it so fully that anybody could make one out of an ordinary pair of hand bellows. This, in itself, was information which was worth more than the price of the book. And it was in keeping with his usual plan of doing everything to make the pursuit easy for the bee-keeper, and less of a hardship on the insects he thought so much of.

North Temescal, Calif.

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**"Apicultural Literarians"—A Defense in Their Behalf.**

*Written for the American Bee Journal*  
BY WM. F. CLARKE.

In the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL of Nov. 24, 1892, on page 695, among suggestions for the improvement of bee-periodicals, is the following from Mr. James Heddon :

First, most, and all the time, wipe out the perpetual curse of filling our bee-papers with the writings of apicultural literarians, and replace it with honest reports and opinions from honey-producers who make bee-keeping pay.

This is not the first time Mr. Heddon has written in this vein. In an article

of his which appeared in the *Bee-Keepers' Review* for Nov. 10, 1890, there was an attack on a class of writers in the bee-papers whom he designated as "literary apiarists, pseudo-professional men, snide lawyers, quack doctors," etc. He expressed the opinion that the editor of a bee-paper should "get on to these fellows," and further, that he should "keep them out of his columns."

At the Michigan State Bee-Keepers' Convention, held about that time, Mr. Heddon was reported in the *Detroit Free Press* as having said "he knew of several men who wrote fluently on bee-keeping, who never produced a pound of honey in their lives," and more in the same strain. In the *Review* he said the editor could give the names of the parties referred to. Of course, then, he could have done it himself. Why did he not do so, while he was about it, instead of hurling disparagement at the whole tribe of literary and professional men?

According to Mr. Heddon, no one is of any account as an apiarist, or qualified to write in the bee-papers, unless he keeps at least 100 colonies, and makes bee-keeping pay from a dollar-and-cent point of view. He must be a specialist, or he is a know-nothing. Now, I beg to ask how many of the great lights of bee-keeping have been specialists? Huber, the father of modern apiculture, was blind, obtained his facts by the observations of others, reasoned on them, and published his conclusions to the world. I question if he ever sold a pound of honey. According to Mr. Heddon, "such a writer could only be misleading, and ought to be weeded out of bee-literature." How much of bee-literature would be left if all such and their writings were weeded out of it? These attacks on "literary apiarists," and "apicultural literarians" reflect no credit on Mr. Heddon. They are wanton onslaughts on a whole class of men, some of whom may be unworthy, but most of whom have rendered signal service to bee-keeping.

Moreover, these attacks are ungrateful returns for the eminent services rendered to Mr. Heddon personally, by the very class of men whom he so unsparingly denounces. When he got up his book, entitled "Success in Bee-Culture," he was glad to avail himself of the help of a literary man whom he calls "My Friend" throughout its pages, and who was not at the time, and had not been for years, engaged in practical bee-keeping.

What Mr. Heddon has written on this subject hits the Nestor of American

Apiculture, "the unkindest cut of all," and is a most ungrateful return for the great lift Father Langstroth gave him in writing up his hive.

No one appreciates more highly than I do Mr. Heddon's abilities and attainments as a bee-keeper, and I have many times, cheerfully and spontaneously, used my pen in his defense against envious and unscrupulous assailants. I must confess I feel stung to the quick by his caustic and unjust criticisms, for if there is any man living who belongs to the class he has singled out for massacre, I am he. I depend upon my pen for a livelihood, and I keep bees, not for pecuniary profit, but because I love the pursuit. Moreover, I believe that a bee-keeper, who, like myself, has from a dozen to twenty colonies, whose wondrous ways he watches and studies with absorbing interest from day to day, may be just as well qualified to write about bee-keeping as one who owns hundreds of colonies, and sells honey by the ton. What is there to prevent such a man from giving "honest reports and opinions?" I contend that he is all the better qualified to do so, from the fact that he does not look at the pursuit from a purely financial stand-point. He is in a position to be thoroughly impartial, disinterested, and unselfish.

Guelph, Ont.

#### An Interesting Experience with Queen-Bees, Etc.

*Written for the American Bee Journal*

BY E. B. KAUFFMAN.

I have taken some interest in bees for several years, which I bought in box-hives. I then got bee-books, and in the season of 1891 I transferred one colony to a movable-frame hive, and got along nicely. I bought an Italian queen-bee and introduced her with success. Strange it is what happened to her; see the *BEE JOURNAL* of March 10, 1892, page 344.

In the latter part of March I bought from the South another queen for the same hive, and introduced her as directed. Then I left home for Lancaster City. In one week I returned, and as I came to that bee-hive I noticed the queen dead on the ground. I opened the hive and found no brood. I then united the bees with another colony. My wife then told me she would rather see me upset the hives and give up bee-keeping, but I transferred the other

bees to movable-frame hives, which are very cross blacks, but by giving them a tremendous dose of smoke I can handle them.

I wrote to the Southern queen dealer about my ups and downs, and that the queen's journey had been too great. The dealer had seen what was described in the BEE JOURNAL of March 10th, and answered as follows:

"I want you to stick a pin at some place, that I will send to you a three-banded Italian queen-bee free, which I will handle roughly before I mail her, and I want you to throw her around before you introduce her. She will be mine until you have her safe in the hive, then she is yours."

Well, that made me restless. I then sent to New York State for queen-bees, and received and introduced them O. K. I then again ordered more five-banded Italian queens from the South, and I introduced those O. K., and sometime in September I received the rough-handled queen. It was one Saturday, and I was not at home when the mail was brought. The cage was laid aside until Monday morning. I found her all right. I hope the dealer will see right here what I did with her. I took the cage with queen and threw her into a tree, and she fell through the limbs to the ground. This I did three times, and found her all right. I then removed a queen from some hive, and introduced her with success.

The dealer also told me this in a letter:

"I (or one of the boys did) threw her clear over the house, and the cage struck the lightning-rod as it went, but I found her O. K., and mailed her."

I have 10 colonies on the summer stands, with all good young queens, but I am glad to say the five-banded ones are the very best in breeding up this fall. I am very sure that I can have those hives boiling over with bees by the right time next spring.

I am thankful for what the Southern dealer has explained to me and others.

I will also say that last week, when I placed the rims between the bottom-board and hive, and some protection in an empty case on top, I opened the hive of the rough-handled queen, as I call her, with very little smoke. I took out one frame until I came to an outside frame of the cluster where I had seen a small lump of bees. All at once I noticed the queen among them, and two or three were fighting her terribly, and very soon the bees and queen flew up

and fell in the grass in a rolling condition. I hurried the frame in, and before I got there the bees and queen were off. It was a nice day, but early next morning a wet snow fell about 4 inches deep, but in two days the snow was gone, and I then examined the hive again, and found her all right at home. What caused this? Will any one tell?

I am troubled with little ants around the bee-hives. I tried everything that I had seen given in the BEE JOURNAL, and it did not destroy them. They will crawl when it is too cold for bees to fly. I keep my bee-hives in a nice lawn in the summer, kept cut with a mower, and white sand under the hives, which are 6 inches from the sand on stakes driven into the ground.

Brickerville, Pa., Nov. 18, 1892.



#### Report of the Carolina Bee-Keepers' Convention.

*Written for the American Bee Journal*  
BY A. L. BEACH.

The fourth annual meeting of the Carolina Bee-Keepers' Association met at the Court House in Charlotte, N. C., on Dec. 1, 1892. The meeting adjourned to the private office of Dr. J. B. Alexander, and was called to order by the President.

J. K. Rankin offered prayer, after which the roll was called, and the usual number answered to their names. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved, after which the convention entered into a discussion of the most prominent features of the pursuit.

The question, "How can we best bring about a more general interest in bee-keeping," claimed the attention of the members at length. The plan most favored was that all honey-producers work together in getting up a honey exhibit which would show that there is more than the "name" in this pursuit.

Nine members, representing 301 colonies, reported a surplus of 7,677 pounds, or an average yield per colony of 25½ pounds. Owing to an excessive wet spring and summer this was thought to compare favorably with our friends of the North and West, who make bee-keeping a specialty.

The members reported a better sale for honey than of former years, which fact goes to prove that the masses are being educated up to the proper limit in the use of honey as a substantial food product.

It is earnestly desired that the press take a more active part in the dissemination of information on the proper culture of the little busy bee. Also, that the State Experiment Station take some steps to give this important branch of rural economy the attention it deserves.

"How does apiculture compare with other pursuits," was discussed, but no one having made the business a specialty, the general opinion prevailed that at least for the present it was only safe as supplemented to other kindred occupations.

It was thought, by intelligent management, that bee-keeping would compare favorably with the smaller industries—such as poultry-raising and truck-gardening, etc.

On motion, a vote of thanks was tendered Dr. J. B. Alexander for the use of his office; to the Mecklenburg *Times*, and other papers, for kindly printing notices, etc.; after which the association adjourned to meet at the Court House in Charlotte on the third Tuesday in July, 1893, at 10 o'clock.

A. L. BEACH, Sec.

“The Winter Problem in Bee-Keeping” is the title of a splendid pamphlet by Mr. G. R. Pierce, of Iowa, a bee-keeper of 26 years’ experience. It is 6x9 inches in size, has 76 pages, and is a clear exposition of the conditions essential to success in the winter and spring management of the apiary. Price, postpaid, 50 cents; or given as a premium for getting one new subscriber to the BEE JOURNAL for a year. Clubbed with the BEE JOURNAL one year for \$1.30. Send to us for a copy.

Please Send Us the Names of your neighbors who keep bees, and we will send them sample copies of the BEE JOURNAL. Then please call upon them and get them to subscribe with you, and secure some of the premiums we offer.



**☞** Do not write anything for publication on the same sheet of paper with business matters, unless it can be torn apart without interfering with either part of the letter.

#### Heart-Rending to Give Up Bees.

Closing out my bees and discontinuing the BEE JOURNAL is heart-rending to me for there is nothing I like better than caring for bees, and sitting in the shade in summer and reading the JOURNAL. My bees did well the past year. They swarmed nicely, and stored 1,500 pounds of comb honey, and 175 pounds of extracted. I have kept bees for 25 years, but I find my health has failed, and so I will have to turn over my subscription to a lady here to whom I have sold my bees.

MRS. MARTHA ANDERSON.  
Bushnell, Ills., Dec. 6, 1892.

#### Like Giving Up an Old Friend.

I have been in the bee-business for over forty years, and have had to give it up on account of poor health. It is like giving up an old friend to give up the BEE JOURNAL and the bees.

H. W. CONKLIN.  
Rockton, Ills., Dec. 10, 1892.

#### Christmas-Tree Stand, Etc.

As Christmas is near at hand, I will tell how I made a pretty stand for a Christmas tree: I took a board 14x14 inches, and one inch thick around this I made a tiny palings fence—there is a post at each corner set firmly into a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch hole, and a gate at the middle of one side with little posts, the same as at the corner. The palings are about  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch thick, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch wide, and the cross pieces are just a little thicker. The best tacks I could find for tacking the palings to the cross-pieces were pins cut in two, using only the head ends. I then painted the fence white, and the board grass-green. In the center of this is a hole into which to fasten the tree.

Any one intending to have a large tree should have a large board.

Is that a perpetual "straw-stack" that Dr. Miller has?

Mr. Quigley has had a rather hard time of it. I can sympathize with him, and hope that the *Progressive Bee-Keeper* will be in progress again with the new year.

I would say to those who are afflicted with rheumatism, that if bee-stings gave them no relief, try the following simple remedy: Two ounces of alcohol, 15 drops oil of mustard.

For shipping comb honey in small quantities by express, I fasten two 12-pound crates together (one on top of the other) with a hoop, leaving enough on top to form a nice ball. The handles of 5-cent baskets are nice for this purpose.

EDW. SMITH.

Carpenter, Ills., Dec. 9, 1892.

#### Rather Poor Season for Bees.

It has been a rather poor season here for bees for the last few years, or the last summer. I have 40 colonies of bees all in good condition for winter. The past summer I got only about 1,000 pounds of comb honey, all being white clover. I think the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is the best bee-paper out.

W. W. MARTIN.

Albia, Iowa, Dec. 8, 1892.

#### Report from a Great Worker.

I extracted 3,000 pounds of honey from 40 colonies, spring count, and all the honey sold around home at 9 cents per pound. I was five days selling the honey. My grain crop was 1,500 bushels of corn, and 400 bushels of oats. I was out no money for hired help. All the above work was done by myself.

GEO. W. NANCE.

Petro, Iowa, Dec. 13, 1892.

#### Bees at the World's Fair.

I do not wish to dictate to the Superintendent of the bee-keepers' department at the World's Fair, but there are some things that perhaps will be neglected that are very essential, viz.: water and salt should be fixed not more than 100 yards from the bees—salt water in one trough, and fresh water in another, with a float to keep the bees from drowning. Something should be done to keep the bees from troubling the grocers. For safety, if it is possible,

it would be well to give the farmers something to get them to sow buckwheat as near as possible—not farther than three miles from the building—say a premium for the best ten acres, and not less than ten competing for the premium. That would keep the bees from the stores and restaurants. I hope bee-keepers will have until the last of July to make their exhibit; if not, there will be a very small show from this State.

NOAH CLEMONS.  
Murray, Nebr., Dec. 5, 1892.

#### Plenty of Good Honey for Winter.

I am very much pleased to see how the "Old Reliable's" dress has been changed. It is a welcome visitor in my home—I could not keep bees without it. I started with 40 colonies last spring; they have plenty of good honey to winter on. Bees generally are in good condition in this locality. I got 400 pounds of section comb honey this year.

B. F. BEHELER.  
Jumping Branch, W. Va., Dec. 5.

#### Bees, Buckwheat and Poultry.

On page 758, I noticed the Query, "Will it pay to sow buckwheat for honey?" It seems to me, that although it depends some on the locality, and whether other plants that produce honey at the same season are plentiful, that it will pay to sow buckwheat, and harvest the seed. In this locality the seed will bring about 40 cents per bushel, and it will yield from 10 to 30 bushels per acre. I find it a valuable food for poultry, and now, as many wish to keep bees in connection with some other business, why not keep poultry, and so make a good market for their buckwheat?

FRANK P. CHASE.  
Ugly, Mich., Dec. 10, 1892.

#### Tons of Honey Wasted—Report.

The honey crop in the Upper Sierras has been the best ever known; all varieties of honey-yielding plants furnished nectar abundantly all through their blooming season.

The honey-dew also furnished an abundant amount of fine nectar for the bees to gather. Some of our honey-dew honey is preferable to any gathered from natural bloom; it is generally spiced with an aroma from the tree it was gathered from; thus, that gathered from the cedars has a slight suggestion

of cedar flavor, which is very pleasant to the taste, and makes cedar honey preferred to other kinds by a great many people.

There were hundreds of thousands of tons of honey that went to waste this year in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, for want of bees to gather it. I am glad to note the decided improvements in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

S. L. WATKINS.

Grizzly Flats, Calif., Dec. 10, 1892.

"Bees and Honey"—see page 813.

#### CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

##### *Time and place of meeting.*

1892.  
Dec. 27-29.—North American, at Washington. W. Z. Hutchinson, Sec., Flint, Mich.  
Dec. 28, 29.—Vermont, at Burlington, Vt. H. W. Scott, Sec., Barre, Vt.  
1893.  
Jan. 2, 3.—Ohio, at Washington C. H., Ohio. Deme Bennett, Sec., Bedford, O.  
Jan. 10-12.—Ontario, at Walkerton, Ont. W. Couse, Sec., Streetsville, Ont.  
Jan. 13, 14.—S.W. Wisconsin, at Boscobel, Wis. Edwin Pike, Pres., Boscobel, Wis.  
Jan. 12-14.—Minnesota, at Minneapolis, Minn. A. K. Cooper, Sec., Winona, Minn.  
Jan. 16, 17.—Colorado, at Denver, Colo. H. Knight, Sec., Littleton, Colo.  
Jan. 18, 19.—Indiana, at Indianapolis, Ind. G. P. Wilson, Sec., Tolgate, Ind.

In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITOR.

North American Bee-Keepers' Association  
PRESIDENT—Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa.  
SECRETARY—W. Z. Hutchinson... Flint, Mich.

##### National Bee-Keepers' Union.

PRESIDENT—James Heddon ... Dowagiac, Mich.  
SEC'Y AND MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago.

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Wallace Porter Dec93  
Suffield, Portage co, Ohio

**Honey & Beeswax Market Quotations.**

The following Quotations are for Saturday, December 17th, 1892:

**CHICAGO, ILL.**—Demand for comb honey is quite good, and choice lots bring 18c., others in proportion. Extracted, 8@9c., according to what it is—sales chiefly at 8@9c.  
Beeswax—23@25c. R. A. B.

**CHICAGO, ILLS.**—Considerable honey coming in. Fancy stock for Holidays will bring fancy price. White comb now selling 16@17cts., with dull market owing to mild weather. Extracted holds firm 8@9c. for fancy; 7c. for dark.

Beeswax—23@25c.

J. A. L.

**KANSAS CITY, MO.**—Receipts and stocks very light, demand good. We quote: No. 1 white 1-lbs. 16@17c.; No. 2, 14@15c.; No. 1 amber 15c.; No. 2 amber, 10@12c. Extracted, white, 7@7½c.; amber, 5@6c.  
Beeswax—20@23c. C.-M. C. C.

**CINCINNATI, OHIO.**—Demand is good for honey, with scant supply of all kinds. Extracted brings 6@8c., and comb sells at 14@16c. for best white. Although honey is scarce, there is no demand for dark comb.

Beeswax—Demand good, at 20@25c. for good to choice yellow. Supply good. C. F. M. & S.

**SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.**—Choice extracted is scarce at 7@7½c., and demand heavier than supply. Choice comb is not scarce at 10@12c., according to quality, 1-lbs. Beeswax is neglected at 22@23c. S., L. & S.

**BOSTON, MASS.**—Comb honey is selling slow, very much slower than we like to have it, and it is our experience that when we start honey in at a high price, it sells hard right through the season. We quote our market nominally at 17@18c. for best white honey, 1-lb. combs. Extracted, 8@9c.  
Beeswax—None on hand. B. & R.

**KANSAS CITY, MO.**—Demand good, supply very light. White 1-lbs., 16c. Extracted, 6@7c. New crop is arriving and is very fine. No Beeswax on the market. H. & B.

**MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.**—Market good and new crop is arriving, but mostly dark is being marketed. Fancy white clover 1-lbs. sell fast at 18c.; 2-lbs. 16@17c. Buckwheat, comb, 13@14c. Extracted, in barrels, 7@8c.; in 5 or 10 lb. kegs, 9@10c. J. A. S. & C.

**MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.**—No. 1 white 1-lbs., 18c.; No. 2, 16@17c. No. 1 dark 1-lbs., 13@14cts.; No. 2, 12½c. Old honey 2c. to 3c. per lb. lower. New extracted (not candied), white, 8@9c.; dark, 6@7c. Old extracted (candied) slow sale at 2 to 3c. lower per lb. S. & E.

**NEW YORK, N. Y.**—Our market is quiet. Arrivals are freely, and the demand limited. We quote: Fancy white, 1-lbs., 15@16c.; 2-lbs., 12@13c. Fair white, 1-lbs., 12@13c.; 2-lbs., 11c. There are large stocks of buckwheat honey on our market, and we know of two lots of fancy 1-lbs. that sold at 8 and 9c. per lb., respectively. We quote 1-lbs., glassed or in paper-boxes, 10c.; unglassed, 9c. Extracted is in good demand at 8@8½c. for basswood and white clover; 6@6½c. for buckwheat; 70@75c. per gallon for Southern.

Beeswax—Dull at 25@27c. H. B. & S.

**ALBANY, N. Y.**—Honey market some quieter and prices some easier. White clover, 15@17c.; mixed, 14@15c.; dark, 10@11c. Extracted, white, 8@8½c.; mixed, 7@7½c.; dark 7c. Stocks light of both comb and extracted. Beeswax, 27@28c. H. R. W.

**List of Honey and Beeswax Dealers,**

Most of whom Quote in this Journal.

**Chicago, Ills.**

R. A. BURNETT, 161 South Water Street.  
J. A. LAMON, 44 & 46 South Water Street

**New York, N. Y.**

F. I. SAGE & SON, 183 Reade Street.  
HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELKEN,  
28 & 30 West Broadway.

**San Francisco, Calif.**

SCHACHT, LEMCKE & STEINER, 10 Drumm St.

**Minneapolis, Minn.**

STEWART & ELLIOTT, 22 Bridge Square.  
J. A. SHEA & CO., 14 & 16 Hennepin Avenue.

**Kansas City, Mo.**

HAMBLIN & BEARS, 514 Walnut Street.  
CLEMOMS-MASON COM. CO., 521 Walnut St.

**Albany, N. Y.**

H. R. WRIGHT, 326 & 328 Broadway.

**Hamilton, Ills.**

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24E Mrs. Minnie W. Gordon, Bloomfield, Fla.

**Convention Notices.**

THE NORTH AMERICAN Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its annual Convention in Washington, D. C., Dec. 27, 28, & 29, 1892.  
Flint, Mich. W. Z. HUTCHINSON, Sec.

OHIO.—The Ohio State Bee-Keepers' annual convention will be held in the Parlors of the Cherry Hotel, at Washington, Fayette Co., Ohio, on Jan. 2 and 3, 1893. Further particulars later.  
DEMA BENNETT, Sec.  
Bedford, Ohio.

ONTARIO, CAN.—The annual meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in Walkerton, Ont., on Jan. 10, 11 and 12th, 1893. All interested in bee-keeping are cordially invited to be present.  
Streetville, Ont. W. COUSE, Sec.

COLORADO.—The Colo. State Bee-Keepers' Association will hold their annual meeting in Denver, on Jan. 16 and 17, 1893. Election of officers and other important business will come before the meeting.  
Littleton, Colo. H. KNIGHT, Sec.

MINNESOTA.—The annual meeting of the Minnesota Bee-Keepers' Association will be held at Minneapolis, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 12, 13 and 14, 1893. The Thursday meeting will probably be a union meeting with the Horticultural Society which meets at the same place, commencing on Tuesday.  
A. K. COOPER, Sec.

Winona, Minn.

VERMONT.—The eighteenth annual meeting of the Vermont Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in the city of Burlington, Vt., on Dec. 28 and 29, 1892. Every one interested in apiculture is earnestly desired to be present. As a bee-keepers' association, we know no State lines, but will gladly welcome all that come. Programs will be published soon.  
Holiday rates on the railroads.  
Barre, Vt. H. W. SCOTT, Sec.

WISCONSIN.—The Southwestern Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its next annual meeting at Boscobel, Grant Co., Wis., on Jan. 13 and 14, 1893. All members of the Association are requested to be present as the following officers are to be elected: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Sec., and Treasurer. Blank Reports will be sent each member, for the year 1892, with instructions. A cordial invitation is extended to all bee-keepers, and especially to those that would like to join with us. Each member will be notified at least one month before the meeting.  
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